



September 2013

# District of Columbia Parks & Recreation Aquatics Policies and Regulations

Version 1.5

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PARKS AND RECREATION AQUATICS POLICIES AND REGULATIONS

<b>1</b>	<b>OVERVIEW.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>GENERAL AQUATIC FACILITY RULES .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>AQUATIC FACILITY ADMISSION POLICIES.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>GROUP AND PERMIT HOLDER AQUATIC FACILITY REGULATIONS.....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>SWIM ATTIRE GUIDELINES .....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>GROUPS FOR DISMISSAL FROM AQUATIC FACILITY .....</b>	<b>5</b>

## **1. OVERVIEW**

- 1.1.** This document summarizes many of the Federal and District laws and regulations, as well as the rules, policies and conditions adopted by the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (“DPR”), governing aquatics related activities at DPR aquatic facilities.
- 1.2.** Failure to adhere to any of the aquatic policies shall be grounds for admonishment to removal from a facility up to barring from a facility for a set period of time.

## **2. GENERAL AQUATIC FACILITY RULES**

The following rules apply to indoor and outdoor aquatic facilities:

- 2.1.** No food or drink permitted in pool area
- 2.2.** No glass permitted in pool area
- 2.3.** No animals permitted in pool area
- 2.4.** Shower before entering pool area
- 2.5.** Do not swallow the pool water
- 2.6.** No swimming when pool is closed or if lifeguard has called for a no-swim period
- 2.7.** No swimming when lifeguard is not on duty
- 2.8.** You must pass DPR “deep water test” to use deep end
- 2.9.** No running on deck
- 2.10.** No dunking, splashing, or horseplay on premises
- 2.11.** No toys, floating devices, snorkels or masks allowed in pool unless part of a DPR authorized class
- 2.12.** No gum, spitting, spouting, nose blowing or urinating in pool
- 2.13.** Socializing with or distracting the lifeguards on duty is prohibited
- 2.14.** Only appropriate swim attire allowed in pool area (see below for additional guidance)
- 2.15.** No diving (except in designated areas)
- 2.16.** No smoking
- 2.17.** No photography and/or video recording without the consent of DPR
- 2.18.** No one shall be allowed to enter the pool with infectious diseases, contagious skin conditions, open wounds, sores that require ointments and bandages
- 2.19.** Swim at your own risk

## **3. AQUATIC FACILITY ADMISSION POLICIES**

The following rules apply to indoor and outdoor aquatic facilities:

- 3.1.** Pool users must abide by all posted rules and lifeguard directives Failure to do so can result in ejection from the facility
- 3.2.** All patrons must sign in and show ID

- 3.3.** Children under the age of 13 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult of 18 years and over at all times
- 3.4.** Children under the age of 6 must be accompanied by an adult—in swim attire—at all times, and within arms length of the adult when in pool One adult can only accompany a maximum of two children under the age of 6 The ratio for this age group is 1 adult for every 2 children (1:2)
- 3.5.** Parents with children ages 6 - 12 cannot be responsible for a group larger than 5 The ratio for this age group is 1 adult for every 5 children (1:5)
- 3.6.** All parents with children ages 6 and up must use gender appropriate locker rooms/family changing rooms
- 3.7.** The actions and conduct of an organized group are the responsibility of the group leader(s) Misconduct of individuals may result in dismissal of the group
- 3.8.** Appropriate swim attire is required in pool area
- 3.9.** No pets are allowed in pool premises—except guide dogs—and only on deck, not in pool
- 3.10.** Persons with open wounds, rashes, nasal discharge, inflamed eyes or bandages are not allowed in pool
- 3.11.** Persons who appear to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs will not be permitted in the pool or in the surrounding area
- 3.12.** Persons on medication must have authorization from their physician to swim
- 3.13.** Infants/children not toilet trained and incontinent adults must wear swim suit diapers or snug plastic pants under their swim suits Diapers (cloth and disposable) are prohibited
- 3.14.** Food consumption and glass containers are prohibited on premises
- 3.15.** No bicycles or strollers allowed on pool deck
- 3.16.** No weapons
- 3.17.** No smoking

#### **4. GROUP AND PERMIT HOLDER AQUATIC FACILITY REGULATIONS**

In addition to the general aquatic facility rules and admission policies, the following

- 4.1.** Groups of 10 or more MUST have a permit for admission to an aquatic facility
- 4.2.** Permitted groups, including camps and day cares, must follow the required chaperone to child ratios:
  - 4.2.1.** Chaperone/Parent to Child Ratios
    - 4.2.1.1.** Children 6 and under – 1:2 (there must be one adult for every two children who are 8 years of age and under)
    - 4.2.1.2.** Adults must be in swim attire and within arm's reach of all children at all times
    - 4.2.1.3.** Children and Youth, ages 7 – 12 – 1:5 (there must be one adult for every six children)
- 4.3.** Adults must be in pool or at poolside, in swim attire, supervising the children at all times

- 4.4.** Because of the high demand for pool space, groups must limit their requests to visiting no more than twice weekly. For a large camp (50+ campers and adults) program, DPR will consider awarding multiple time slots during a trip, however no more than 25 persons may be in the pool or pool area at the same time.

## **5. SWIM ATTIRE GUIDELINES**

These requirements apply to all DPR aquatic facilities:

- 5.1.** All persons on the pool deck and/or swimming in the pool must have on proper swim attire
- 5.2.** All infants/toddlers that require a diaper must wear swimmer diapers and proper swimwear
- 5.3.** Clean cotton t-shirts and sarongs are allowed on the pool deck, however patrons must have on proper swim attire underneath
- 5.4.** The following attire is not permitted at District aquatic facilities:
  - 5.4.1.** "Street clothes"
  - 5.4.2.** Brazil/French-cut
  - 5.4.3.** thong style and/or revealing swim wear
  - 5.4.4.** cut-off jeans
  - 5.4.5.** jeans
  - 5.4.6.** skirts
  - 5.4.7.** shorts
  - 5.4.8.** sport bras
  - 5.4.9.** leotards
  - 5.4.10.** leggings
  - 5.4.11.** dri-fit wear
  - 5.4.12.** compression shorts and compression shirts
  - 5.4.13.** Underwear and undergarments are not permitted to be worn under swimsuits

## **6. GROUNDS FOR DISMISAL FROM AQUATIC FACILITY**

Patrons may be dismissed from a facility for any of the following reasons:

- 6.1.** Improper conduct, including derogatory and/or profane or offensive language
- 6.2.** Causing injury to others
- 6.3.** Fake drowning
- 6.4.** Intoxication
- 6.5.** Failure to follow facility rules or lifeguard directives